

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 05802 061409Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEAE-00 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 PM-04 INR-07

INRE-00 SSO-00 /039 W

-----061417Z 083335 /44

O 061130Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2102

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 5802

STADIS//////////

FOR NEA DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DUBS FROM CONSTABLE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PK, US, MASS

SUBJECT: COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT FOR PAKISTAN

1. WHEN PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO FIRED THE FIRST SALVO IN HIS ANTI-AMERICAN CAMPAIGN IN HIS APRIL 28 SPEECH, THE DEPARTMENT INDICATED IT WOULD WITHDRAW THE \$52 MILLION COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT SALE FOR PAKISTAN FROM THE LARGE ARMS PACKAGE BEING SENT TO THE HILL. WE HAVE NOT HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT THE SALE SINCE THEN AND ARE CONSEQUENTLY NOT CERTAIN IF THE PACKAGE HAS YET GONE TO THE HILL AND IF IT HAS, WHETHER THE PAKISTAN EMBASSY HAS NOTED THE ABSENCE OF THE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT. THE ISSUE HAS NOT BEEN RAISED WITH US IN ISLAMABAD.

2. IF IN FACT THE ARMS PACKAGE, WITHOUT THE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, HAS ALREADY GONE TO THE HILL AND IT IS A MATTER OF PUBLIC RECORD WHICH THE GOP IS CERTAIN TO HAVE NOTICED, THEN THERE IS NO PROBLEM. HOWEVER, IF THE PACKAGE IS STILL PENDING IN THE BUREAUCRACY, AND WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE CONGRESS IN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO, THEN I WOULD RECOMMEND WE RECONSIDER WHETHER
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 05802 061409Z

WE WANT TO CONVEY AN ADDITIONAL NEGATIVE SIGNAL TO THE GOP AT THIS TIME.

3. WHEN THE EMBASSY FIRST RECOMMENDED SUSPENDING ACTION ON THE SALE OF COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, WE WERE IN THE PERIOD IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING BHUTTO'S APRIL 28 SPEECH AND THE ANTI-AMERICAN CAMPAIGN WAS IN FULL SPATE. WE

ASSUMED THAT THE SUSPENSION WOULD BE QUICKLY NOTED BY THE
GOP AS A NEGATIVE SIGNAL WHICH WAS APPROPRIATE TO
CONVEY AT THAT TIME.

4. IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY FURTHER INFORMATION AS TO WHAT
HAS HAPPENED ON THIS WHILE QUESTION OF THE ARMS PACKAGE,
I AM CONCERNED THAT WE MAY LET THE SHOE DROP AT THE
WRONG MOMENT. IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE POSITIVE STATEMENTS
MADE BY SECRETARY VANCE AND AZIZ AHMED FOLLOWING THEIR
TALK IN PARIS, I BELIEVE WE NEED TO MOVE CAUTIOUSLY IN
THE WAY WE HANDLE SIGNALS FROM OUR SIDE. THE A-7 AND
REPROCESSING STORIES ARE CERTAINLY BEING INTERPRETED HERE
AS NEGATIVE SIGNALS, ALTHOUGH BHUTTO FOR HIS OWN
DOMESTIC REASONS HAS SO FAR CHOSEN NOT TO MAKE A
PUBLIC ISSUE OF THEM. A FURTHER NEGATIVE SIGNAL ON THE
COMMUNICATIONS AT THIS TIME IS, IN MY
JUDGMENT, NOT NECESSARY TO PERSUADE BHUTTO THAT THERE
ARE REAL COSTS IN CONTINUING AN ANTI-AMERICAN LINE.

5. THEREFORE, IF THE ARMS PACKAGE HAS NOT YET GONE TO
THE HILL, I WOULD RECOMMEND THAT WE REINSTATE THE
COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT FOR PAKISTAN. SHOULD BHUTTO
AGAIN TURN ON THE ANTI-AMERICAN SPIGOT, WE WILL STILL
HAVE THE OPTION OF SUSPENDING ACTION ON THE SALE BEFORE
THE TRANSACTION IS COMPLETED.
CONSTABLE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY SALES, RADIO EQUIPMENT, ANTIAMERICAN FEELING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ISLAMA05802
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770200-1176
Format: TEL
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770688/aaaaczac.tel
Line Count: 88
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4982b784-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2266431
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT FOR PAKISTAN
TAGS: MASS, PK, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4982b784-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009